

HOUSE BILL 2021
By Odom

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 53; Title 56; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71,
relative to prescription drugs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by
adding the following as a new section:

68-1-122.

(a) On and after July 1, 2005, there is established in the department of health a prescription drug assistance program. The program shall provide information and assist residents of Tennessee with lawfully obtaining prescription drugs from Canada through a Canadian pharmacy benefit manager as deemed appropriate by the commissioner of health to assure the welfare and safety of Tennessee residents and as authorized by this section. The department shall also maintain a telephone hotline and an internet website to facilitate such assistance.

(b) To the extent not prohibited by federal law, the department is authorized to facilitate cost savings in obtaining prescription drugs for Tennessee residents by means of utilizing a Canadian pharmacy benefit manager. Such drugs may only be obtained for personal medical use by an individual, not for resale.

(c) The department shall provide information to residents of the state regarding how to participate in the program and how to gain access to pharmacies participating in the program. The department shall enter into an

agreement with a pharmacy benefits manager to facilitate the assistance permitted by this section.

(d) The department, in providing advice on purchasing prescription drugs from Canada, shall verify that participating pharmacies are safe, reputable and reliable.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.